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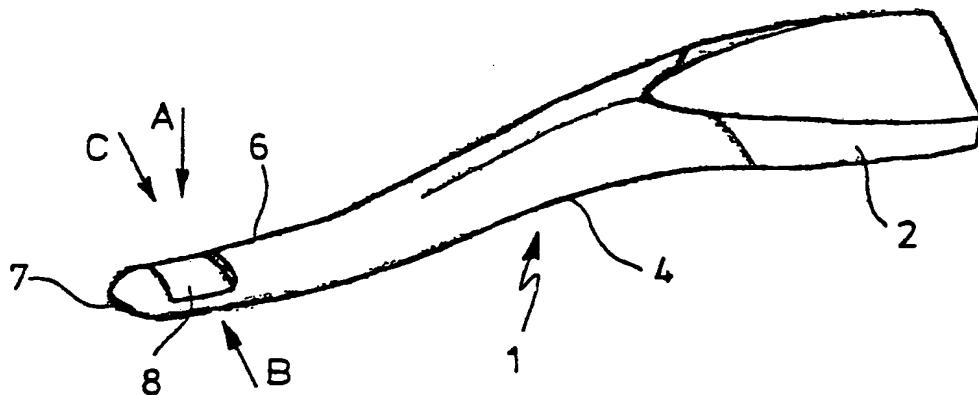
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For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: SURGICAL AUXILIARY INSTRUMENT



(57) Abstract: A surgical auxiliary instrument (1) contains a grip section (2) in the proximal region, an adjoining intermediate section (4) and, in the distal region, an application section (6) set up for laying against an implant tape. The application section (6) is preferably provided with a depression (8).

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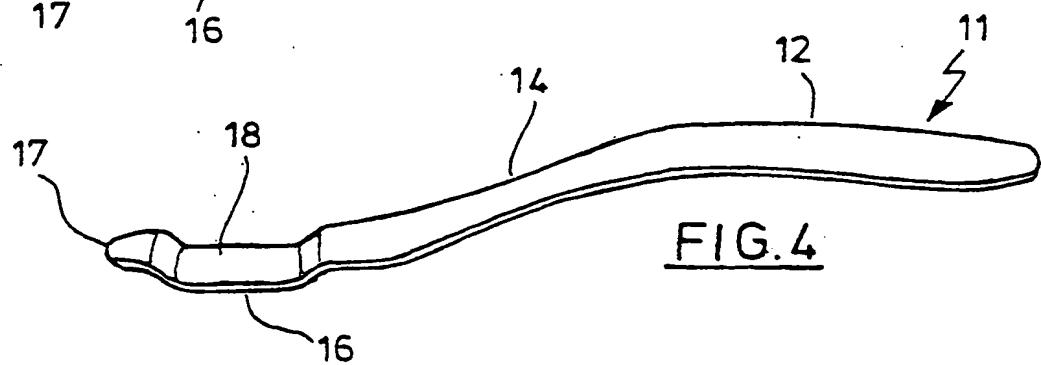
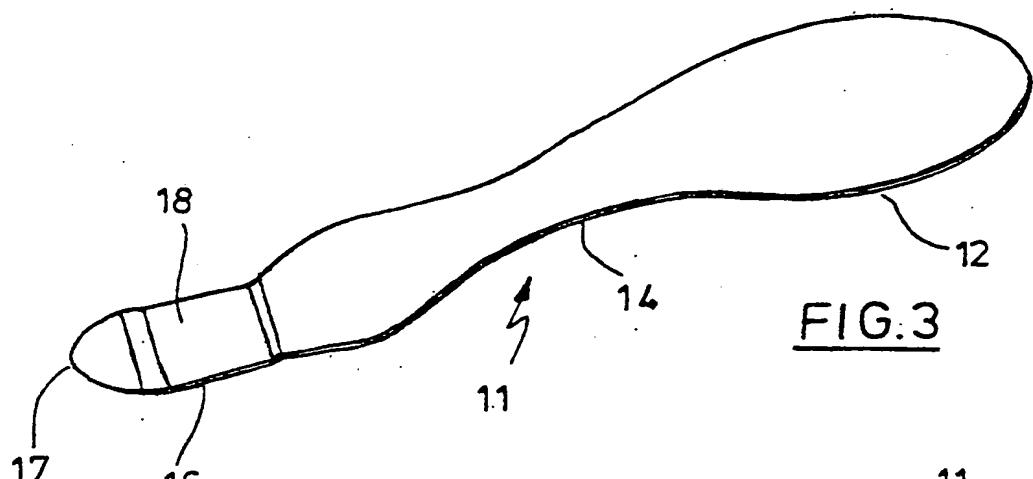
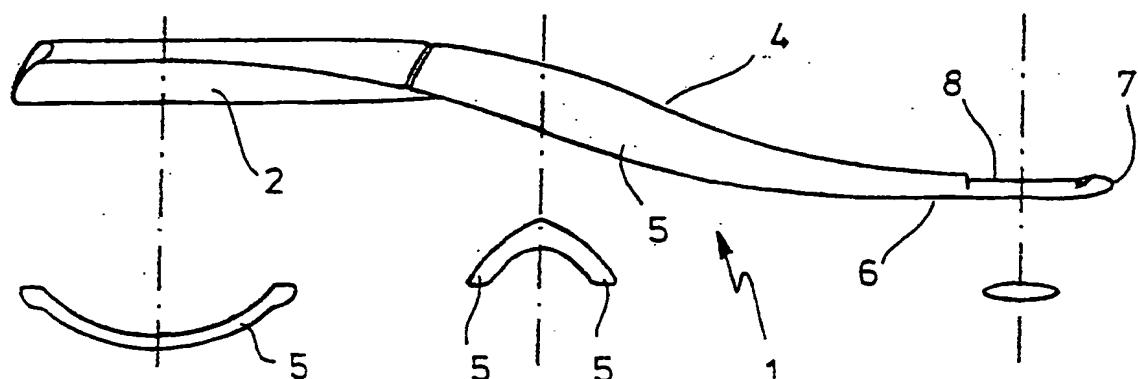
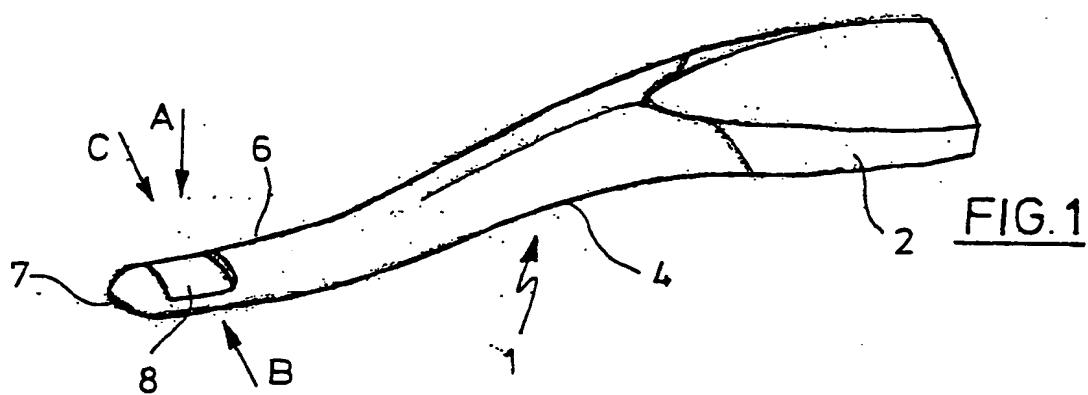
Claims

1. Surgical auxiliary instrument with a grip section (2; 12) in the proximal region, an adjoining intermediate section (4; 14) and an application section (6; 16), in the distal region, set up for laying against an implant tape.
5
2. Surgical auxiliary instrument according to claim 1, characterized in that the application section (6; 16) runs cranked relative to the grip section (2; 12).
- 10 3. Surgical auxiliary instrument according to claim 1 or 2, characterized in that the application section (6; 16) has a depression (8; 18), the length of which, measured in longitudinal direction of the auxiliary instrument (1; 11), is at least as great as the width of the implant tape to be used, and which is open on both longitudinal sides of the auxiliary instrument (1; 11).
15
4. Surgical auxiliary instrument according to claim 2 and claim 3, characterized in that the depression (8; 18) is accessible from the side on which the grip section (2; 12) is located.
20
5. Surgical auxiliary instrument according to one of claims 1 to 4, characterized in that the application section (6; 16) is designed flat.
25
6. Surgical auxiliary instrument according to one of claims 1 to 5, characterized in that the intermediate section (4) has a reinforcement profile (5).
30
7. Surgical auxiliary instrument according to one of claims 1 to 6, characterized in that it is designed as an injection moulding (1).

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8. Use of a surgical auxiliary instrument according to one of claims 1 to 7 in a TVT procedure, in which the application section (6; 16) is pushed between the patient's urethra and the pulled-in implant tape, and the position of the implant tape is checked, set, corrected or maintained through an exertion of force, directed away from the urethra, on the auxiliary instrument (1; 11).
5
9. Use according to claim 8, in which the auxiliary instrument has the features of claim 3, characterized in that the implant tape comes to rest in the depression (8; 18) and runs transversely with respect to the auxiliary instrument (1; 11).
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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No
PCT/EP 02/12849

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 A61B17/04 A61B17/42 A61F2/00

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 A61B A61F

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal

C DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Description of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	FR 820 187 A (COUTURE RAYMOND) 5 November 1937 (1937-11-05) page 1, line 31 - line 42; figures 1,2 -----	1-3,6
A	US 3 776 240 A (WOODSON E) 4 December 1973 (1973-12-04) column 2, line 24 - line 61; figures 1-5 -----	1,2
A	WO 97 13465 A (MEDSCAND MEDICAL AB ;ULMSTEN ULF (SE)) 17 April 1997 (1997-04-17) abstract; figure 1 -----	1

Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :

- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
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- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

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- *X* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- *Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- *&* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the International search	Date of mailing of the International search report
17 February 2003	26/02/2003
Name and mailing address of the ISA	Authorized officer
European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016	Ducreau, F

Form PCT/ISA/210 (second sheet) (July 1992)

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/EP 02/12849

Box I Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 1 of first sheet)

This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. Claims Nos.: 8, 9
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
Rule 39.1(iv) PCT – Method for treatment of the human or animal body by surgery
2. Claims Nos.:
because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:
3. Claims Nos.:
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box II Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.
2. As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.

No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/EP 02/12849

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date		Patent family member(s)		Publication date
FR 820187	A	05-11-1937	NONE			
US 3776240	A	04-12-1973	NONE			
WO 9713465	A	17-04-1997	SE AU AU CA CN DE DE DK EP EP EP ES JP JP RU SE WO US US US	506164 C2 704712 B2 7350296 A 2231155 A1 1200658 A 69618650 D1 69618650 T2 854691 T3 1151722 A2 1159921 A2 0854691 A1 2170880 T3 11514266 T 3229327 B2 2161916 C2 9503512 A 9713465 A1 6491703 B1 2002165566 A1 5899909 A	C2 B2 A A1 A D1 T2 T3 A2 A2 A1 T3 T B2 C2 A A1 B1 A1 A	17-11-1997 29-04-1999 30-04-1997 17-04-1997 02-12-1998 28-02-2002 19-09-2002 22-04-2002 07-11-2001 05-12-2001 29-07-1998 16-08-2002 07-12-1999 19-11-2001 20-01-2001 10-04-1997 17-04-1997 10-12-2002 07-11-2002 04-05-1999